

WAR ITEM

Consent Decree Lodged in E.D. Virginia Between EPA, Commonwealth of Virginia and Honeywell Resins & Chemicals LLC to Settle Clean Air Act Violations at Hopewell, VA Plant: Civil Action No. 3:13-CV-193

Honeywell Resins & Chemicals LLC (“Honeywell”) has agreed to pay a \$3 million civil penalty to address Clean Air Act (“Act”) violations at its Hopewell, VA plant, plus install other injunctive relief totaling approximately \$66 million dollars. The civil penalty will be split equally between Virginia and the United States. The agreement further provides that Honeywell will also perform a mitigation project at the facility, valued at approximately \$1 million dollars.

Honeywell’s Hopewell plant is the world’s largest single-site producer of caprolactam used in the production of nylon, and ammonium sulfate used for fertilizer. The facility violated the Act’s limits on emissions of nitrogen oxide (NOx), benzene and other volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and particulate matter. The plant also failed to comply with requirements to upgrade air pollution control equipment, to detect and repair leaks of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs), and to develop safeguards to benzene waste.

Under the Consent Decree, Honeywell will be required to install selective catalytic reduction at four production trains at the facility, conduct a third-party benzene waste operations audit, and implement an enhanced leak detection and repair program at the facility. The settlement is expected to reduce annual emissions of NOx by about 6,260 tons, and cut annual emissions of benzene, other VOCs and HAPs by 100 tons.

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